May 28 – June 3, 2015 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 22 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 22

Members of the Belleville City Council recently approved a resolution of intent to issue $550,000 in general obligation bonds to fund sewer rehabilitation in the city.

See page 5.

THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 22

Canton Township celebrated National Public Works Week recently by recognizing the employees in the public works division of the township.

See page 3.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

Vol. 68, No. 22

Two men have been charged in the death of a 21-year-old man found in the early morning of May 13 on an Inkster street.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 16

The Northville Art House Chalk Festival is the newest addition to the Arts and Acts Festival and chalk artists are now being sought to decorate the street June 20.

See page 3.

THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 22

Plymouth Community United Way plans to be part of a kidnapping, or a simulated one as a fundraiser set for June 20.

See page 6.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 130, No. 22

Brooke Waldon has joined an elite group of students throughout the country who have managed to catch the attention of Microsoft founder Bill Gates.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 22

The Wayne Community Center will be closed in a cost-cutting measure to help balance the serious deficit budget in the city.

See page 4.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 19

A 17-year-old Westland man faces a preliminary court examination today in 18th District Court, charged with fatally stabbing a Belleville man.

See page 4.

Teen accused of murder plot offered deal

Prosecutors have offered a plea deal to the 15-year-old Plymouth Township girl accused of attempting to murder her family by slitting their throats as they slept.

In addition, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge James A. Callahan threw out the confession of Roksana Sikorski, saying that she was too young to have waived her rights when she spoke to police investigators and told them she slashed the throat of her 12-year-old brother Oct. 17.

Sikorski, being tried as an adult, would have to plead guilty to the attempted murder charges and face a sentence of 15 to 30 years in prison as part of the plea deal.

> *A jury trial for Sikorski and Rivera was scheduled to begin May 13. Callahan imposed a gag order on the case in February...*

In a separate action, Callahan removed defense attorney Leslie Posner from the case, replacing her with court-appointed Matthew Evans, an experienced defense attorney. Callahan told Posner, during a brief hearing in his chambers earlier this month that there was a conflict of interest in the Sikorskis paying for their daughter's defense as they were among her intended victims in the alleged crimes. Posner, who told the judge that the Sikorski family had run out of money, asked Callahan to designate her as the court appointed public defender for the teen, who has remained in the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center since her arrest Oct. 18. She and her 23-year-old boyfriend, Michael Rivera, are accused of plotting the attack on her family as a way to be together and avoid the sexual misconduct charges her parents had filed against him in an effort to break up the relationship.

The judge agreed to provide Evans as the public defender for Sikorski noting that Posner was not qualified as a court-appointed attorney.

A jury trial for Sikorski and Rivera was scheduled to begin May 13. Callahan imposed a gag

See **Plea,** page 6

Heroes
Northville responders honored for saving life

Don Howard
Staff Writer

Among those receiving awards from Northville Township for their heroic efforts in saving the life of a 20-year-old woman last December were, from left, Firefighter Will Caruso, Firefighter Brent Muller, Police Ofc. Christopher Cox, Danielle Teper, Dispatcher Jennifer Allen, Dispatcher Jeanette Schrameck and Police Ofc. Douglas Scoggins.

Danielle Teper has a lot to be thankful for.

Last Thursday evening, she got a chance to express her gratitude to the eight people who saved her life last December when she suffered extreme respiratory failure and flat-lined in her car.

Danielle Teper

Northville Township Director of Public Safety John Werth, right, praised the heroic work of the team of first responders who saved Danielle Teper's life. Fire Chief Richard Marinucci was also on hand during the award presentation. Photos by Don Howard

Teper, 29, had just completed her shopping at the Kroger store on Haggerty Road in Northville, loaded her packages and started her car when her heart suddenly stopped. Her abrupt loss of consciousness caused her car to go out of control and roll forward, striking a light pole in the parking lot. She was left, unconscious, slumped over her steering wheel as her heart simply gave out.

A fellow shopper, Kyle Martin, ran to her car when he saw it strike the pole and realized that she was in serious physical distress. Her car doors were locked and he couldn't get to her, but he immediately called Northville Township 911 for help.

The public safety professionals who managed to save Teper's life were introduced to the members of the Northville Township Board of Trustees last week by Public Safety Director John Werth, who congratulated each of them for their fast thinking and exemplary work during the crisis.

When the emergency call came in at 5:20 p.m., dispatchers Jennifer Allen and Jeanette Schrameck immediately sent township emergency personnel to the scene including a team of Advanced Life Support paramedics who arrived within minutes.

First to arrive on the scene in response to Martin's 911 call, however, were police officers Christopher Cox and Douglas Scoggins. Cox, realizing the immediacy of the situation, broke out the vehicle glass to gain access to Teper for Firefighter Jason Hendrian who removed her from the car.

Hendrian reported back to the dispatch office that Teper was in full cardiac arrest with no pulse at his initial assessment. Firefighter Brent Muller immediately started what is known as

See **Heroes,** page 4

Squabbling trustees OK $11 million waste contract

During a 3½ hour meeting punctuated with heated arguments and raised voices, members of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees last week created a new $60,000 parks position, awarded a seven-year, $11 million waste hauling contract and approved the addition of a part-time assistant in the clerk's office.

After heated debate among the board members, the contract for solid waste disposal was awarded to Rizzo Environmental Services.

Engineer Patrick Felrath said the township had solicited bids from five vendors for the residential refuse, recycling and yard waste services contract with Duncan Disposal System, Inc. that expires in October. Felrath recommend that Rizzo Environment Services which he said "appeared to be" the lowest bidder for each of three service options be awarded the new contract. He outlined the first service option as the same as that provided by Duncan and options two and three were for automated applications utilizing large wheeled containers. Township Treasurer Ron Edwards agreed with Felrath reiterating that Rizzo was the low bidder and arguing for the immediate award of the contract to the company.

> *There was confusion ... who was in charge of the park and who wasn't in charge of the park.*

Trustee Chuck Curmi suggested postponing or tabling the decision based the complexity of choices and not knowing if residents would want to keep status quo services they currently have in place or pay for the automated service.

"Can we wait until we sort this out…I don't think we have to be in a hurry," Curmi said.

Edwards reiterated that Rizzo was the low bidder and

See **Meeting,** page 6

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CANTON - NORTHVILLE

Canton honors township public service department

Canton Township celebrated National Public Works Week recently by recognizing the employees in the public works division of the township.

The special week was instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association in 1960, and is observed each year during the third full week of May.

According to Tim Faas, director of Canton's Municipal Services Department, this year the celebration theme was "Community Begins Here" which fits well with the new department brand "Community Starts with Us."

"Often the first contact a new resident, or business, has with Canton is with the staff of the Municipal Services Department," said Faas. "We want to ensure the customer has a great experience starting out in Canton."

The designated week is designed to call attention to the importance of public works in the community and enhance the prestige of the often-unsung heroes of our society- the professionals who serve the public good every day with quiet dedication, he added.

The Canton Public Works Division is part of the Municipal Services Department in the township and is broken into five sections; Fleet Maintenance, Water Distribution, Sanitary Sewer Collection, Environmental Services and Customer Service. All sections work closely together to help provide and maintain the infrastructure and services that keep our community functioning in an operable manner, Fass said.

The Fleet Maintenance facility is located behind Canton Fire Station One, which is right next to the administration building. Fleet is responsible for the maintenance and repair of more than 170 township owned vehicles and equipment such as police cars, fire trucks and rescue vehicles, cars and trucks, heavy equipment, mowers and golf carts. Water Distribution, Sanitary Sewer Collection, Environmental Services and Customer Service.

The Water Section is in charge of operating and maintaining the township water distribution system. With 23,000 customers, the system has five main pressure reducing valves with connections to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department transmission mains which provide water primarily from the Springwells water treatment plant. The Canton water distribution system contains about 420 miles of pipeline, 4,500 fire hydrants and 4,400 gate valves.

The Sanitary Sewer Collection Section is responsible for operating and maintaining the township sewer system that provides 20,804 residential and 2,394 commercial customers with a reliable waste water disposal system. The system consists of four sanitary sewer lift stations, 8,339 manholes, 1 mile of sanitary sewer force main, and 338 miles of gravity sanitary sewer main.

The Environmental Services Section is in charge of the solid waste collection program as well as carrying out stormwater best management practices. This section is involved in inspecting of 35 miles of creeks and streams in the Lower and Middle Rouge River sub-watersheds for illegal connections, log jams and stream bank erosion.

This section also receives grant money to retro-fit, upgrade and maintain storm water quality ponds within Canton.

The Customer Service Section handles all customer complaints and works with the cross-connection control program to ensure the Canton water system is not contaminated. This section also oversees installation and repair of water meters, and coordinates water service turn-on and shut-off requests for commercial and residential customers.

In addition to the five sections that make up the Public Works Division, Canton recognized the Engineering Services Division which works closely with Public Works to help maintain the community infrastructure. Engineering Services is located on the second floor of the Canton Administration Building. This section ensures that the community engineering design and construction standards are met on all projects.

Engineering Services reviews and inspects utilities, drainage infrastructure, arranges special assessment districts, road paving, flood plains and wetlands, and reviews outside agency permits. They are also in charge of the annual Sidewalk Replacement Program.

Chalk 'artists' are sought

The Northville Art House Chalk Festival is the newest addition to the Arts and Acts Festival.

The Northville Art House and friends of the Northville Art House will provide each registered artist/group one box of artist's chalk to create their works of art from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. June 20 during the festival.

Pre-Registration is now under way. Artists need to secure a chalk square in advance. Participants will be given a 12-color box of chalk and a sidewalk square assignment at the registration tent located at the corner of Main and Center streets beginning at 10 a.m. There is a $5 registration/supply fee. Prizes will be awarded in all age groups.

Visit https://northvillearthouse.org/special-events/chalk-festival/ to register.

The Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady St. in Northville. For more information, call (248) 344-0497.

Heroes

FROM PAGE 1

intraosseous vascular access, a difficult procedure used for the administration of medication to patients in extreme respiratory failure.

At this point in time, Werth explained, Teper had only about two minutes to survive.

Muller placed a catheter needle just below her kneecap into the bone of her leg to allow life-saving medication to go directly to her heart. At the same time Firefighter A.J. Spolsky ventilated her lungs and started intubation with a balloon while Firefighter Will Caruso applied a defibrillator pad to her chest, administering electrical shock therapy. Firefighter Kyle Lewis and Firefighter Mike Mandziuk took turns performing chest compressions filling her lungs and keeping her blood flowing to her brain and other organs.

The life saving team worked with precision of an orchestra, Werth said, doing everything possible to induce Teper's heart to start beating again.

Dispatchers working the phones from several miles away communicated with the medical team and located Teper's sister and were able to pass on important and critical medical information to the paramedics working to save Teper's life.

Teper's parents, Art and Maureen Teper, were with her last Thursday as the men and women who saved her life received official recognition for their efforts from township officials, along with their gratitude. Maureen Teper said the minutes waiting for her daughter's heart to start beating again must have seemed like an eternity to the men working to save her life in that parking lot.

Teper and her family were all smiles last week as Werth introduced and congratulated each of the professionals responsible for saving her life.

"I sincerely commend the public safety personnel involved in this incident who exhibited quick thinking, teamwork and professionalism of the highest quality," said Werth.

Congratulations

The Canton Police Department welcomed new police officers, Kenneth Montone, left, and Kenneth Kleszcz, right, to the department last week. Both new officers took their oaths of office with friends and family present and were congratulated by Deputy Chief Scott Hilden, center. All new police officers in Canton are required to successfully complete a 16-week instructor-led field training program, prior to working on their own. This program is designed to orientate and develop recruit officers, maximizing their potential and providing them with the tools necessary to successfully make the transition into their new position as a Canton police officer, a spokesman said.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon a two week notice to the Charter Township of Canton. These services include signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

Gwyn Belcher, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

Published: May 28, 2015

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NOTICE!!

WESTWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET HEARING

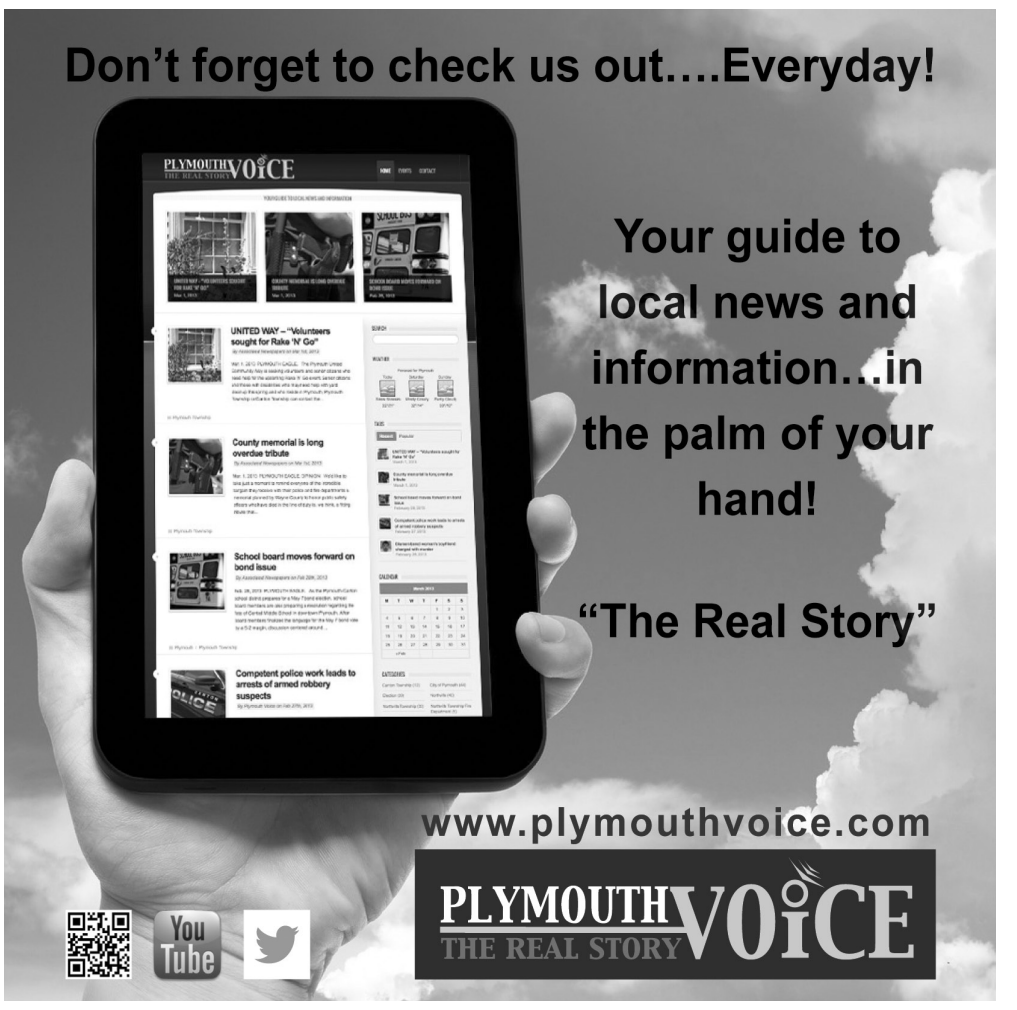
A Public Hearing on its proposed budget will be held by the Board of Education of the Westwood Community School District on:

Thursday, June 11, 2015
at 7:00 p.m.
In the
Equilla F. Bradford
Administrative Center
3335 S. Beech Daly Road
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

Copies of the proposed budget will be available for review in the Westwood Administrative Office Center between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on June 11, 2015.

Cheryl Bell-Everett, Secretary
Westwood Board of Education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Wayne - Westland

Wayne council agrees to close community center

The Wayne Community Center will be closed in a cost-cutting measure to help balance the serious deficit budget in the city.

Closure of the facility was among the measures city council members approved earlier this month as they met to attempt to solve the structural deficit in the city. The new $16.3 million budget was proposed by City Manager David Murphy who this week accepted a job as the new city manager in Farmington.

The new budget for 2015-16 also included suggestions from Murphy that the city use reserve funds earmarked for retiree health care to pay $1.6 million in general fund obligations, move city hall into the library building and move the library to the community center along with selling some park land in the city.

Murphy told the council members that it will be necessary for them to meet regularly to discuss the budget, expenses and spending in the city.

"You can't just pass this budget as you did in the old days and walk away. You're going to hell in a hand basket."

Wayne voters soundly rejected a proposed police and fire retirement system and a requested new 3-mill tax earlier this month.

Voters cast 1,743 no votes on Proposal 1, the question of establishing a Public Act 345 millage that could have generated about $1 million annually. Only 805 city voters cast votes in favor of the question.

This is the second time voters have rejected the proposal which was on a ballot last year with similar results. The city budget was prepared prior to the first rejection of the millage by voters, leaving a large revenue gap for city officials to attempt to manage in budget preparations for next year.

> *You can't just pass this budget as you did in the old days and walk away. You're going to hell in a hand basket.*

Voters also rejected Proposal 2 which would have included the five-year levy of an additional 3 mills. Only 706 voters said yes while 1,852 rejected the request.

Wayne property values have dropped nearly 50 percent since the recession, severely impacting the amount of tax revenue the city receives from property taxes. Efforts to save expenditures include exploration of a self-insurance plan, and the application for a federal SAFER grant to fund the hiring of new firefighters, cutting overtime costs in that department.

Councilman Al Damitio continued his efforts to keep the community center open for the public. Damitio suggested moving both city hall and the Department of Public Works into the building. A financial analysis of his recommendations showed that after the $450,000 in necessary renovations to accomplish the moves, the shortfall in the city would be increased by $815,000.

Undeterred, Damitio urged each council member to consider the consequences of closing the community center.

Mayor James Hawley responded that if residents felt so strongly about the community center, they would have approved the ballot measures to provide the necessary revenue.

"We hope to have some opportunities in the near future. I think we will have a real community center providing better services," said Hawley, referring to discussions to regarding privatizing the facility and services.

Following Murphy's suggestion of regular meetings to deal with the budget, council members agreed to begin meeting on Tuesday evenings specifically to discuss the financial concerns of the city.

'Friends' seek help

The City of Wayne Friends program is seeking volunteers, donations and homes where help with maintenance might be needed.

The program, "Friends, People Helping People" was started in 1998 to help Wayne residents whose homes are in need of some tender loving care.

Homes are usually chosen based on the homeowner's inability to handle the work themselves, due to either financial or health reasons. Friends will pair up the selected home with a group of willing volunteers to complete the work. This year, the volunteers will work on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Nominations for homes with owners who need help, donations for the program and volunteer information are available at the Wayne Community Development Office, (734) 419-0118.

Teen is charged in stabbing

A 17-year-old Westland man faces a preliminary court examination today in 18th District Court, charged with fatally stabbing a Belleville man in the early-morning hours of May 16.

According to police reports, Dion Patterson faces charges of homicide-felony murder, homicide-second degree murder, first-degree home invasion and assault with a dangerous weapon in the death of Matthew Green, 33.

Green, a Belleville resident, was visiting his girlfriend who lives on the 35000 block of Thames in Westland, according to police reports. The couple and two others returned to their residence next door to Patterson's mother's home at about 2:15 a.m. May 16. Patterson's mother reportedly had words with the group about being too loud and noisy through her window. The altercation reportedly woke Patterson who took a kitchen knife and went to the neighboring home, entering through an unlocked side door, where he encountered Green.

Green reportedly attempted to force Patterson from the home and suffered three stab wounds during the ensuing struggle. Officers said he was transported to Oakwood Wayne Hospital where he later died of his injuries.

Following the stabbing, police said that Patterson returned to his mother's home where he was arrested immediately by police without incident.

During his arraignment last week, a not-guilty plea was entered on his behalf.

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94. Farm Land for Rent
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96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent
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99. Flats for Rent
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101. Wanted to Rent
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30. Help Wanted

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BELLEVILLE - INKSTER - ROMULUS

Romulus student wins Gates Foundation scholarship

Brooke Waldon has joined an elite group of students throughout the country who have managed to catch the attention of Microsoft founder Bill Gates.

Or at least the foundation he and his wife support.

Waldon, a senior at Romulus High School, was recently awarded an academic scholarship available to high-achieving students which provides full financial support at the college or university of their choice. It is funded through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and is considered one of the most prestigious college awards in the country.

Waldon is ranked second in academic achievement in her class with a grade point average of 4.1779. She is a member of the national Honor Society, Business Professionals of America and FCCLA. She is alo a member of the varsity wrestling team, plays varsity softball, a member of the quiz bowl team and is the president of student government at Romulus High School.

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program will fund her education at Syracuse University where she will study bio-medical engineering.

In addition to the financial support, as a Gates scholar, Walson will be provided with leadership development opportunities, mentoring, academic and social support through the Millennium Scholars program which was founded in 1999.

The program is administered by the United Negro College Fund and partner organizations including the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund and the American Indian Graduate Center.

Since inception, the scholarship has paid for more than 20,000 students to attend colleges and universities, and has awarded more than $614 million for education costs including tuition, fees, books and housing.

To qualify for the scholarship award, applicants must have a 3.3 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale, possess outstanding leadership abilities, demonstrate significant financial need and plan to enroll for the first time at an accredited U.S. college or university. Additionally, applicants must be a citizen, national or legal permanent resident of the United States, and be of African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American heritage.

Brooke Waldon

Belleville council OK's sale of rehabilitation bonds

Members of the Belleville City Council recently approved a resolution of intent to issue $550,000 in general obligations bonds to fund sewer rehabilitation efforts in the city.

The bond is expected to fully fund the $423,043.13 bid of Liquiforce Services and the added engineering costs, bond counsel and associated expenses according to Ryan Kern, an engineer from Hennessey. He told the council members present at the meeting that the Liquiforce bid was about $75,000 less than anticipated for the work involved in the project. The bonds will be repaid from sewage disposal revenue for a term not to exceed 20 years.

The project includes the acquisition and construction of improvements to the city sewage disposal system, including rehabilitating certain sewers throughout the city with cured-in-place pipe lining and rehabilitation of manholes, together with all necessary interests in land, rights-of-way, appurtenances and attachments.

Kern said the installation of the sewer liners should begin in October and can continue until temperatures drop to 15-20 degrees.

Belleville DPW Director Keith Tackett told the council members that the plan is to have it all done before next spring.

Kern said that day-long street closings would be necessary as the work progresses through the city, but would be temporary.

By state law, the bonds will be issued without a vote of the electors unless a petition requesting such a vote signed by not less than 10 percent of the registered voters of the city is filed within 45 days of publication of the legal notice to taxpayers of the intent to sell the bonds.

2 men arrested in Inkster homicide

Two men have been charged in the death of a man found in the early morning of May 13 on an Inkster street.

State police were contacted by officers from Inkster after responding to a 2:30 a.m. call from a resident who reported finding a deceased man in the middle of the 4100 block of Moore Street. When officers from Inkster responded, they found the unidentified man and contacted the state police for investigative aid.

Inkster Police Chief Joseph Thomas, Jr. said the investigation was a cooperative effort between Inkster officers and the Michigan State Police.

Thomas said the investigation proved that there is still a "very involved public" in the city who "despite some very unfortunate recent incidents, still like and trust their police department."

The deceased has been identified as Jalen Muhammad, 21, of Inkster.

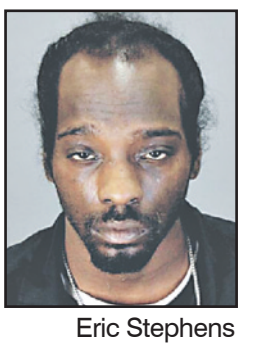
Of the three individuals interviewed by detectives, two were juveniles who have been released into the custody of their parents.

On May 15, the Wayne County Prosecutor authorized a two-count warrant for felony firearms and felon in possession of a firearm for Lucky Steven Hurst, 26, of Inkster. He was arraigned in the 22nd District Court and his bond was set at $20,000, according to information provided by the state police.

A two-count was issued May 20 by the prosecutor for assault with intent to murder and felony firearms for Eric Anthony Stephens, 25, also of Inkster. He was arraigned in 22nd District Court and his bond was set at $50,000.

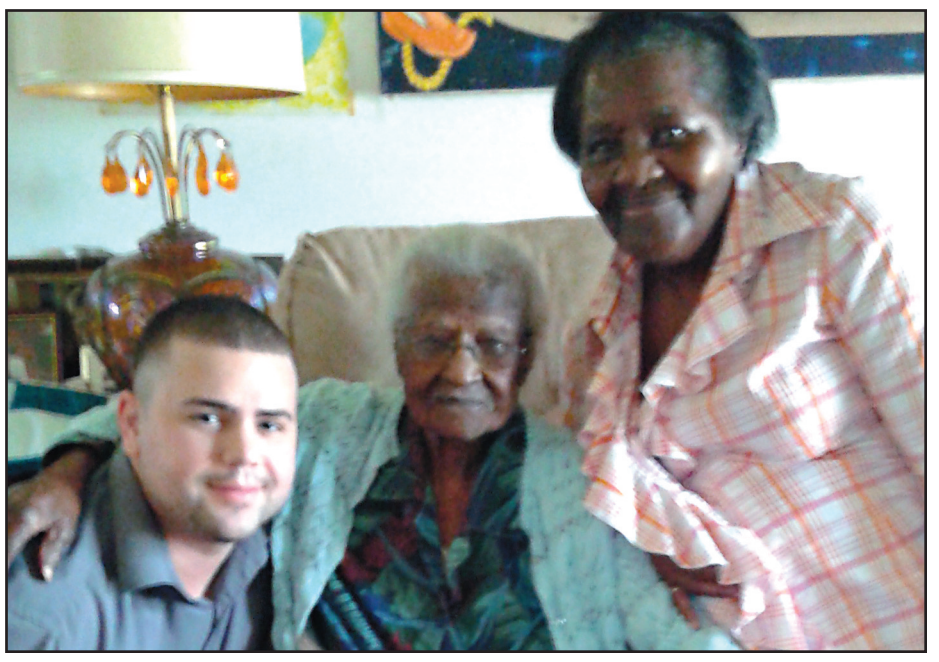
State police said that the incident remains under investigation but that no one else is in custody at this time.

Lucky Hurst



Eric Stephens

State police requested anyone with information regarding this homicide call the Second District Special Investigation Section at (734) 368-8290 or 1-800-CRIME.



Candles and cake

Frank Costello, owner of Gracie Cee Pastaria, left, hosted the 116th birthday party for Jeralean Talley, center, and her family, including her daughter, Thelma Holloway, right, last week. Talley, of Inkster has been officially named as the oldest woman in the world. She also celebrated at Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Inkster on Sunday.

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10 OZ CRAFT DRAFTS
Any of our 10 oz drafts
WELL DRINKS
Rum, Vodka, Gin, Whisky, Tequila
BASKET OF BEER BATTERED ONION RINGS
Hand cut sweet yellow onions, lightly dusted and dipped in our beer batter then fried to a crispy golden brown. Served with our Bang Bang Sauce
BASKET OF LOADED FRENCH FRIES
French Fries topped with cheddar and muenster cheese, chopped bacon, scallions and sour cream
16-OZ CRAFT BEER OUR THE DAY
See our list.
$5
HOUSE WINES
Merlot, Cabernet, Chardonnay, Pinot Gringo
1/2 SWEET HEAT WINGS
Fresh chicken wings lightly dusted and fried to a golden brown then tossed in our homemade Sweet Heat sauce.
MEAT LOAF SLIDERS
Two of our homemade meat loaf sliders made fresh with an array of herbs and spices grilled over caramelized onions and topped on fresh buns with bistro sauce.
LONG ISLANDS & LONG BEACHES
$6
MARTINIS
See our list for hand crafted Martinis
HAND MADE MOJITO (WHEN IN SEASON)
Fresh made classic mojito with mint that we grow in our herb garden. Ask your bartender which fresh fruit mojitos we're making at this time. Enjoy!
TEMPURA BATTERED BRIE
Creamy Brie dipped in a tempura-batter made from Sam Adams Boston Lager, fried until warm and soft, placed on top of raspberry sauce. Served with warm pita bread.
FRESH POTATO CHIPS TOPPED WITH BLUE CHEESE ALFREDO SAUCE
Fresh fried potato chips, topped with a bleu cheese-Alfredo sauce, Saputo bleu cheese crumbles and green onions. Indulge generously!
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Plymouth

Meeting

FROM PAGE 1

insisted the contract be immediately awarded to them.

In one of several heated exchanges, Trustee Bob Doroshewitz questioned the number of resident homes that would need containers and questioned who would own the containers and maintain them. He was told there are 8,600 homes in the township that would be affected and the per annum cost per home for the automated service would be $180.

The seven-year contract would cost taxpayers approximately $10,836,000.

A contentious proposed motion to amend the 2015 General Fund Budget to add the new parks director also caused tempers to flare during the meeting. Edwards has been acting as the parks supervisor since 2010.

Doroshewitz noted that the $60,000 a year job was actually a $100,000 a year job when benefits were factored in and that if the job lasted for 25 years the board was making a $2.5 million decision.

He criticized the job description for the park job noting that the new director will report to the township supervisor and act as "township representative." He said that while he felt the position was probably necessary, he could find no justification whatsoever for the position in the materials supplied to the board. He said that the claim that Edwards had saved the township "hundreds of thousands of dollars" included in the resolution language was not verified by any of the auditors' reports he had received.

The parks job requirements were limited to an individual with a four-year degree in engineering, a valid drivers license and the possession of "interpersonal and communication skills necessary to interact with the public, staff and outside agency personnel" along with grant writing experience. During discussion, Township Supervisor Shannon Price said it was clear the position was needed.

"There was confusion ... who was in charge of the park and who wasn't in charge of the park," Price said.

Doroshewitz said he agreed that a director was needed but said the job description and qualifications presented did not meet the experience necessary to manage the township parks.

Price responded that the grant-writing facet of the job description, if successful, would pay for the new director. Edwards also stressed the grant-writing portion of the qualifications for the position which would be that of a department director.

The new job was created by a 4-2 vote of the board with Trustee Mike Kelly absent.

The administrative assistant position in the clerk's office will include 15-20 hours weekly with a wage of $18.47 per hour. The job was approved in the same amendment as the new parks director position.

Some residents remarked they felt that the ambiguity in the parks director job description didn't include any of the key elements for a park warden or park superintendent. Critics said Price had a pre-selected candidate in mind who fit the job description but who would serve, in reality, as a functional deputy for the supervisor.

'Kidnapping' planned in Plymouth

Plymouth Community United Way plans to be part of a kidnapping.

That isn't quite as ominous as it sounds as it is all in good fun during a fundraiser set for June 20.

It's not a real kidnapping, but a game presented by Quizzo Detroit. Designed for ages 21 and up, the game consists of teams of four investigators who use crime scene analysis, problem solving and clues to crack the case.

The entire game takes place on foot downtown so organizers recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes and weather appropriate clothing. Participants also need their identification and at least one smart phone and one flashlight per team.

The game begins at 8 p.m. and lasts approximately 2-1/2 hours with the opportunity to purchase beverages throughout the night at local establishments.

The cost to participate is $80 per team of four. The winning team will be awarded a prize package courtesy of downtown businesses.

To register, call the Plymouth Community United Way at (734) 453-6879.

For more information, visit www.plymouthunitedway.org.

Police presence prompts concern

Several residents who attended the regular Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting last week were surprised at what they described as an "increased police presence" at the proceedings.

Police Chief Tom Tiderington, however, said that there had been no official request for any officers at the meeting at that those in attendance were not assigned there as part of their regular patrols or by special request.

Residents, however, noted that an armed officer stood in the exit door during the entire meeting and at times rested his hand on his holstered weapon. In addition, there was an armed plain clothes lieutenant in the audience and Tiderington was present, as usual, at the officials' table.

Meetings have reportedly been heated and contentious recently and officials have been escorted to their vehicles following the proceedings by officers. Following one recent meeting, witnesses reported a loud altercation between a trustee and another elected official.

Township resident State Rep. Kurt Heise who attended the meeting in question last week later remarked about his shock at the obvious police presence during the meeting.

"In the hundreds, if not thousands, of public meetings I've attended, I can't remember the number of times I've seen an armed police officer standing at the door in a defensive position like that," Heise said.

Plea

FROM PAGE 1

order on the case in February following a televised interview with the parents and reported comments from Posner, who spoke to the media about the plea-bargain offer and change in defense counsel only after being removed as Sikorski's attorney.

Posner claims there is no conflict of interest because she did not discuss substantive matters with Sikorski's parents.

According to police reports, officers were called to the Sikorski's Heather Hills home in Plymouth Township at about 2:30 a.m. Oct. 17 after the family was awakened by the 12-year-old boy's screams. The boy told police his sister had attacked him with a knife as he slept and police investigators later discovered text messages on Sikorski's phone indicating that Rivera was outside the home, giving her instructions and advice on killing her entire family by slashing their throats. The two were arrested the following day at Rivera's Detroit home and have remained in custody on $1 million bond.

The three Sikorski children were adopted from an orphanage in Poland about 10 years ago. Sikorski was allegedly abused by her birth parents prior to her adoption and Posner has claimed that the teen suffers from a form of post traumatic stress disorder and was intimidated into the attempted murders by Rivera, under duress.

No further information is available due to the gag order.

Supporting the health of families in our neighborhoods is just one of Oakwood's specialties. Oakwood offers a lot more than award-winning hospitals and clinical care – including programs that cover a range of health topics that truly matter in the management of conditions that can interfere with enjoying life.

Heart Health and Blood Pressure Screenings at local churches, farmers markets and other venues in your neighborhood can help you check your numbers between annual physicals.

Speaker's Bureau provides health experts to speak to your group or organization on the health-related topics that interest you most – at no cost.

Cooking Matters and **Managing Your Diabetes** are educational sessions that demonstrate how cooking matters to health and the important of meal planning.

Wellness 101 refers to a series of free classes designed to give you an in-depth understanding of some of the most pressing health concerns in our community – like joint pain, back pain and atrial fibrillation.

To register for a class or learn more about a program near you, visit **oakwood.org** or call **800-543-WELL**. We are proud to be part of the community, and committed to making it a healthy one.

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